

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A method of managing assets controlled by members of an organization, said
2 organization having a central server configured to access data and software systems of said
3 organization, comprising the steps of:

4 identifying one or more of said assets for management and submitting an asset

5 disposition request to said central server;

6 automatically, based on receipt of said asset disposition request, obtaining all

7 required approvals for said asset disposition request;

8 automatically, based on said obtaining of all required approvals, effecting said asset

9 disposition request; and

10 automatically modifying said data to reflect said effected disposition request.

1 2. A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said step of automatically modifying
2 said data comprises modifying financial data of said organization.

1 3. A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said financial data comprises at least
2 tax records and balance sheets.

1 4. A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said data includes asset inventory data,
2 personnel data, and financial data, and wherein said software systems of said organization
3 include an automated routing system coupled to said asset inventory data, said personnel
4 data, and said financial data, said step of automatically obtaining all required approvals
5 comprising at least the steps of:

6 identifying from said asset inventory data all assets affected by said asset disposition
7 request;

8 determining from if said identified assets meet a predetermined disposition criteria;
9 if said predetermined disposition criteria has been met, identifying from said
10 personnel data any personnel required to approve said asset disposition
11 request;

12 requesting approvals from said identified personnel using said automated routing
13 system; and

14 receiving said approvals from said identified personnel using said automated routing
15 system.

1 5. A method as set forth in claim 4, wherein said step of automatically effecting
2 said asset disposition request comprises at least the steps of:

3 changing the control status of identified assets in accordance with said asset
4 disposition request;

5 notifying, using said automated routing system, any member of said organization
6 responsible for effecting said disposition request;
7 receiving, from said member(s) of said organization responsible for effecting said
8 disposition request, confirmation that said asset disposition request has been
9 effected; and
10 notifying, using said automated routing system, all members of said organization
11 affected by said disposition.

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1 10. A method as set forth in claim 5, wherein said disposition comprises placing
2 said identified asset(s) in a list of surplus assets for a predetermined period of time.

1 11. A system for managing assets controlled by members of an organization, said
2 organization having a central server configured to access data and software systems of said
3 organization, comprising:

4 means for identifying one or more of said assets for management and submitting an
5 asset disposition request to said central server;

6 means for automatically, based on receipt of said asset disposition request,
7 obtaining all required approvals for said asset disposition request;

8 means for automatically, based on said obtaining of all required approvals, effecting
9 said asset disposition request; and

10 means for automatically modifying said data to reflect said effected disposition
11 request.

1 12. A system as set forth in claim 11, wherein said means for automatically
2 modifying said data modifies financial data of said organization.

1 13. A system as set forth in claim 12, wherein said financial data comprises at least
2 tax records and balance sheets.

1 14. A system as set forth in claim 11, wherein said data includes asset inventory
2 data, personnel data, and financial data, and wherein said software systems of said
3 organization include an automated routing system coupled to said asset inventory data, said
4 personnel data, and said financial data, said means for automatically obtaining all required
5 approvals comprising at least :

6 means for identifying from said asset inventory data all assets affected by said asset
7 disposition request;

8 means for determining if said identified asset(s) meet a predetermined disposition
9 criteria;

10 means for identifying from said personnel data, if said predetermined disposition
11 criteria has been met, any personnel required to approve said asset
12 disposition request;

13 means for requesting approvals from said identified personnel using said automated
14 routing system; and

15 means for receiving said approvals from said identified personnel using said
16 automated routing system.

1 15. A system as set forth in claim 14, wherein said means for automatically
2 effecting said asset disposition request comprises at least:

3 means for changing the control status of identified assets in accordance with said
4 asset disposition request;

5 means for notifying any member of said organization responsible for effecting said
6 disposition request;

7 means for receiving, from said member(s) of said organization responsible for
8 effecting said disposition request, confirmation that said asset disposition
9 request has been effected; and

10 means for notifying all members of said organization affected by said disposition.

16. A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises
transferring said identified asset(s) from one member to another member of said
organization.

17. A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises selling
said identified asset(s) to a third party outside of said organization.

18. A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises
transferring said identified asset(s) from one department to another department within said
organization.

19. A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises retiring
said identified asset(s).

1 20. A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said disposition comprises placing
2 said identified asset(s) in a list of surplus assets for a predetermined period of time.

1 21. A computer program product for managing assets controlled by members of
2 an organization, said organization having a central server configured to access data and
3 software systems of said organization, the computer program product comprising a
4 computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code embodied in
5 the medium, the computer-readable program code comprising:

6 computer-readable program code that identifies one or more of said assets for
7 management and submits an asset disposition request to said central server;

8 computer-readable program code that automatically, based on receipt of said asset
9 disposition request, obtains all required approvals for said asset disposition
10 request;

11 computer-readable program code that automatically, based on said obtaining of all
12 required approvals, effects said asset disposition request; and

13 computer-readable program code that automatically modifies said data to reflect
14 said effected disposition request.

1 22. A computer program product as set forth in claim 21, wherein the computer-
2 readable program code that automatically modifies said data comprises computer-readable
3 program code that modifies financial data of said organization.

1 23. A computer program product as set forth in claim 22, wherein said financial
2 data comprises at least tax records and balance sheets.

1 24. A computer program product as set forth in claim 21, wherein said data
2 includes asset inventory data, personnel data, and financial data, and wherein said software
3 systems of said organization include an automated routing system coupled to said asset
4 inventory data, said personnel data, and said financial data, and wherein the computer-
5 readable program code that automatically obtains all required approvals comprises at least:

6 computer-readable program code that identifies from said asset inventory data all

7 assets affected by said asset disposition request;

8 computer-readable program code that determines if said identified assets meet a
9 predetermined disposition criteria;

10 computer-readable program code that, if said predetermined disposition criteria has
11 been met, identifies from said personnel data any personnel required to

12 approve said asset disposition request;

13 computer-readable program code that requests approvals from said identified
14 personnel using said automated routing system; and

15 computer-readable program code that receives said approvals from said identified
16 personnel using said automated routing system.

1 25. A computer program product as set forth in claim 24, wherein the computer-
2 readable program code that automatically effects said asset disposition request comprises
3 at least:

4 computer-readable program code that changes the control status of identified assets
5 in accordance with said asset disposition request;

6 computer-readable program code that notifies, using said automated routing system,
7 any member of said organization responsible for effecting said disposition
8 request;

9 computer-readable program code that receives, from said member(s) of said
10 organization responsible for effecting said disposition request, confirmation
11 that said asset disposition request has been effected; and

12 computer-readable program code that notifies, using said automated routing system,
13 all members of said organization affected by said disposition.

1 26. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition
2 comprises transferring said identified asset(s) from one member to another member of said
3 organization.

1 27. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition
2 comprises selling said identified asset(s) to a third party outside of said organization.

1 28. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition
2 comprises transferring said identified asset(s) from one department to another department
3 within said organization.

1 29. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition
2 comprises retiring said identified asset(s).

1 30. A computer program product as set forth in claim 25, wherein said disposition
2 comprises placing said identified asset(s) in a list of surplus assets for a predetermined
3 period of time.